Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claim 4 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 3 and 5 to read as follows.

1.   (Currently Amended)   A method of controlling a printing apparatus which performs printing by using a printhead having a printing element and a storage unit, the printing apparatus including a first control unit which controls operation of the printing apparatus, and a second control unit which can operate independently of the first control unit, the method comprising:

an instruction generation step of causing the first control unit to generate an instruction for acquiring specific information from information held by the storage unit of the printhead, the instruction not including an address of the storage unit to be accessed;

an acquisition step of causing the second control unit to receive the instruction generated by the first control unit in the instruction generation step, generate an address for accessing the storage unit of the printhead based on the instruction, access the storage unit at the address, and acquire the specific information corresponding to the instruction; and

a control step of causing the second control unit to drive and control the printhead on the basis of information which is generated on the basis of the specific information acquired in the acquisition step in order to drive the printhead.

wherein the acquisition step includes

a generation step of generating an access signal containing the address for reading out the specific information specified by the instruction generated in the instruction generation step from the storage unit, and

a read step of accessing the storage unit in accordance with the access signal generated in the generation step and reading out the specific information.

2.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the second control unit is arranged in a carriage which supports the printhead.

3.   (Currently Amended)   A printing apparatus which performs printing by using a printhead having a printing element and a storage unit, comprising:

instruction generation means for generating an instruction for acquiring specific information from information held by the printhead, the instruction not including an address of the storage unit to be accessed;

acquisition means for receiving the instruction generated by said instruction generation means, generating an address based on the instruction, accessing the storage unit of the printhead based on the address, and acquiring the specific information corresponding to the instruction from the storage unit; and

control means for driving and controlling the printhead on the basis of

information which is generated on the basis of the specific information acquired by said

acquisition means in order to drive the printhead,

wherein said acquisition means includes

generation means for generating an access signal containing the address for

reading out the specific information specified by the instruction generated by said

instruction generation means from the storage unit, and

read means for accessing the storage unit in accordance with the access

signal generated by said generation means and reading out the specific information.

Claim 4 (Canceled).

5.   (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 4 3,

wherein the said generation means has, in correspondence with a plurality of types of

printheads, a plurality of tables which make items of the specific information specified by

the instruction and storage addresses of the storage unit correspond to each other, and

generates the access signal by looking up a table corresponding to a printhead mounted on

the printing apparatus among the plurality of tables.

6.   (Original) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said

acquisition means is arranged on a carriage for conveying the printhead.

7.   (Original) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said acquisition means includes transmission means for transmitting the instruction to the printhead.

Claims 8-21 (Canceled).